

BERNSTORFF'S AID WARNED OF DEFEAT

Dr. Albert in 1916 Predicted
U. S. Entry Into War and
Told Its Effects.

HINDENBURG A WITNESS

Agreed With Ludendorff on
Necessity of Unrestricted
Submarine Warfare.

By the Associated Press.
BERLIN, Nov. 18.—Dr. Heinrich F. Albert, German Under-Secretary of State and formerly commercial attaché in the German Embassy at Washington, predicted in 1916 with unerring accuracy the decisive effect America's entry into the war would have.

A report which he made at that time to the German Government, read to-day before the subcommittee of the National Assembly investigating war responsibility, gave clear warning of the feeling in the United States, of America's efficiency, of her financial powers and of her intense leaning toward the Entente, which declared that in case of America's participation "neutral nations would side with America, the psychological effect would be felt at once, it would be a national misfortune and Germany would be defeated."

Field Marshal von Hindenburg, who was the star witness to-day, had before him the task of answering six questions which were prepared beforehand by the subcommittee. Among other things he said that Germany did not desire war and that Germany's defensive strength from the very start was unfavorable. It was the lack of co-operation between the army and "interests at home" which had influenced the defeat of Germany.

Count von Bernstorff, the former German Ambassador to the United States, was happy this afternoon to be before the attack made on him before the subcommittee by Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Gen. Ludendorff. He said:

"It showed more than anything else could have done that the German Embassy at Washington was unpopular with the naval and military leaders, who would not believe our representations respecting America."

Ludendorff Attacks Bernstorff.

Gen. Ludendorff's unexpected attack on Count von Bernstorff, it is thought, was the outcome of the meeting between the two at Great Headquarters, May 4, 1917, there being varying versions of the attack made on him before the subcommittee. According to report, the General did not care to meet the former Ambassador.

That Ludendorff's feeling against von Bernstorff is deep and was demonstrated by his remarks during a brief pause in the proceedings of the subcommittee, when he declared he would find a way of reckoning with the Ambassador.

Ludendorff summarily brushed aside Prof. Bonn, who attempted to show the General an official transcript of part of von Bernstorff's testimony at this point. Pounding the table with his fist, he demanded clarification of the charges that he and Field Marshal von Hindenburg did not want peace at any time and that they were bent on forcing victory.

"They say I lost my smile because I was tyrannical," he shouted. "Yes, I did lose my smile, but only because I care for Germany and the German people and their future."

Then von Hindenburg asked for the floor and vigorously declared: "I and my faithful coworkers wanted peace, but an honorable peace. I resent emphatically charges to the contrary."

Von Hindenburg in his testimony said: "I know with absolute certainty that neither the people, the Kaiser nor the Government desired war, for the Government knew better than others Germany's tremendously difficult position in a war against the Entente."

Germany's defensive strength, said the Field Marshal, was as unfavorable as possible from the start. It might be left to history to decide why Germany's peace policy had failed.

"If the military authorities prepared for the possibility of an unavoidable war," continued von Hindenburg, "it was only its duty toward the nation. If there had been solid, united cooperation between army and homeland we could have attained victory. While with the enemy, notwithstanding his superiority, all parties were united even more firmly in the determination to be victorious, with us, although we were numerically inferior, interests at home made their influence felt and this state of affairs led to the breaking of the will to victory."

In all great decisions Ludendorff and himself, said von Hindenburg, were of one mind; they had worked in full accord from August 29, 1914, to the end. We considered unrestricted submarine warfare imperative immediately. We entered the supreme command," continued the Field Marshal. "When 1917 came we could no longer permit our gallant soldiers to be bombarded with American airplanes and their wives and children starved by the blockade. The U-boat war was the only means to oppose those conditions."

Six Vital Questions Asked.
The subcommittee had prepared six questions, which had been asked by von Hindenburg on Saturday, to enable him to study them and prepare his answers. The questions were:

"First—From what time did the upper army leadership consider unrestricted submarine warfare unavoidable, and for what reasons?"

"Second—Did the army leadership know of reasons against the submarine and the opening of submarine war from the declarations of Under-Secretaries of State Haniel and Albert? Why did the army leadership consider those declarations against submarine war as no longer sound?"

"Third—Why did the army leadership accept, as in the telegram of von Hindenburg, December 23, 1916, to Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, the statement that the Wilson peace was not made by England, and not agree to the peace proposal made by the Imperial leaders?"

"Fourth—Was the army leadership familiar with the various details of President Wilson's action, especially on January 9, 1917, as the decision to begin U-boat warfare was taken? Were the reports from Bernstorff during the period December 21 to January 9 familiar?"

"Fifth—Did the army leadership assume that England could be compelled to peace at the latest in July, 1917, as contained in the memorandum of the Admiralty Staff?"

"Sixth—Gen. Ludendorff assumes in his book that on January 29 in a conversation from headquarters with the Government that delay in the submarine war had not been demanded, while

Chancellor von Bethmann, in his statement before the subcommittee, declared that he had made such a demand. How is this contradiction to be explained?"

Chairman Goethel tried to have von Hindenburg answer the questions separately, but he declared that he must mix them up. The second question embodied long cable reports of Secretaries Haniel and Albert from America, under date of 1916, describing as experts what the effect of the submarine war would be. These reports were unusually clear in their warning.

Predicted War With America.
Haniel's report was read first. In it he said America, despite its business sense and its English and to some extent French ties, was at heart sentimental, and that numerous Americans with whom he had talked were agreed that if Germany began U-boat warfare that would go to war. Whereas if Germany ceased it they would compel England to remove the blockade. Any relaxation of Germany's promises made in 1916 meant war with America, in the opinion of the intelligent Germans in America, said the report.

National feeling had grown enormously and America, already on the side of civilization, feared the U-boat danger more than that it wanted to be on the side of the Entente. Herr Haniel was firmly convinced that war with America would result from U-boat warfare; after which America would be victorious, material aid of food would be enormous.

Secretary Albert reported more strongly even in his communication of November 6, 1916, when the U-boat warfare had not yet been agreed upon and there had been no question of recalling the boats.

"If Germany can beat England," he said, "then war with America will make no difference. But thus far our boats have been unable to sink the large armed British merchantmen. The blockade of England would have to last a long time and be supported by land, and if Japan can be induced by England to keep its fleet at home America has the possibility of sending its ships to European waters."

"America can raise at least several army corps, and a strengthening of the Entente forces would result. It would be most important in economic questions and would energetically support its allies with no telling what huge loans under the influence of the enthusiasm in America. Witness the Americans who feared an attack by Holland and the Lafayette Flying Squadron. That dangerous branch of warfare would be surely vastly strengthened."

"America's transportation without doubt would be efficient and capable of increase, and if America feels safe from Japan she will throw all her ammunition to France, not to forget the wonderful American automobile industry, including the giant Ford output and other machines which would help in winning the war."

"Neutrals would side with America. The psychological effect would be felt at once. It would be a national misfortune, and, at the end, Germany would be sure to be defeated."

Feared Neutrals Would Attack.
In his testimony Gen. Ludendorff said that the High Command first refrained from beginning the U-boat campaign because the Chancellor at that time feared an attack by Holland and Denmark, owing to the pressure of Great Britain, and there were then no troops to meet new enemies.

The high command was sceptical regarding President Wilson's peace move, but expressed approval of this, and also approved Germany's peace move, and endeavored not to thwart political peace steps. Ludendorff said he had always regarded Count von Bernstorff's activities as unsympathetic. He believed that von Bernstorff had not furnished the Chancellor with correct information.

This impression was strengthened when von Bernstorff told the committee yesterday that America could only have been held aloof from the war by entrusting President Wilson with the role of intermediary for peace, whereas, Ludendorff pointed out, this was not mentioned in von Bernstorff's reports.

Moreover, von Bernstorff's statement that his visit to Ludendorff's headquarters was accidental was untrue, the witness said, as he had asked to be received.

Von Bethmann-Hollweg declared that, with reference to the sixth question, there was no contradiction in his declaration and Ludendorff's book, inasmuch as he, jointly with Herr Zimmermann, on receiving von Bernstorff's report, asked Admiral von Holtzendorff (former head of the Naval General Staff) to defer unrestricted submarine warfare, but von Holtzendorff had replied that this was impossible. The Chancellor therefore considered the matter settled.

An attempt was made at yesterday's session to fix the blame for the sending abroad of the text of former Emperor William's speech in Alsace on the eve of the German peace proposal in December, 1918. This resulted in the discovery that the original order issued to the Wolf Bureau was destroyed during the occupancy of that organization's offices by the Spartans last winter.

The subcommittee desired to run down the responsibility for publishing the former Emperor's declaration that Germany would be satisfied only with a "victory peace" at the moment Dr. Theobald von Bethmann-Hollweg, then the Imperial Chancellor, was planning a peace proposal, and a controversy ensued between Dr. Helfferich and Deputy Bonn, the latter charging the German Government with a failure to "cavalier" President Wilson, who, it was said, "was a different individual later, but at that time might have been over to the attempted peace action."

Count von Bernstorff, former German Ambassador at Washington, declared the United States would have remained out of the war if President Wilson's mediation had been accepted, whereupon von Bethmann-Hollweg exclaimed:

"Even the United States in the war did not make the Versailles peace necessary. I did not desire to participate in a battle for the soul of President Wilson, and in view of the situation I could not conscientiously surrender Germany unconditionally to the President's promised peace undertaking late in 1918 and early in 1917."

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REDS CAPTURE TEN KOLCHAK GENERALS

Hundred Other Officers Taken
at Omsk, Says Moscow
Despatch.

ARMY BEING PURSUED

Bolshevik Claims of Capital's
Fall Confirmed—Weather
Freezing.

LONDON, Nov. 18.—The Bolshevik claim the capture of ten Generals and more than 100 other officers at Omsk, according to an official statement issued to-day by the Soviet Government at Moscow. Kolchak's army is being pursued in an easterly direction, the statement adds. The text of the communication says:

"Ten of Kolchak's Generals and over 100 other officers are among the prisoners at Omsk, where the defeated remnants of Kolchak's army are being driven eastward. We occupied a number of positions twenty miles to the eastward and captured enormous quantities of stores."

"In the region of the Finnish Gulf we have taken Ostrov and have also occupied the lower reaches of the Lena."

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Bolshevik claims of the capture of Omsk on November 15 were confirmed by official despatches received to-day at the State Department. These said the Soviet forces had advanced thirteen versts beyond the Kolchak capital and had destroyed bridge and railroad tracks.

The message described the evacuation as orderly, many refugees travelling eastward in open carts. The temperature was five degrees below zero (Reaumur) when the message was filed and a heavy snowfall in western Siberia was reported.

VLADIVOSTOK NOW
SCENE OF REVOLT

Disturbance Confined to Russians, Washington Told.

Special Despatch to The Sun.
WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—A revolution has broken out in Vladivostok, according to information received by the State Department to-day. The disturbance is said to be so far among the Russians only, but the reason for the uprising was not given. Officials would not comment on the part Americans would take in a disturbance of this kind, but it was made clear that until the Czech-Slovaks had all left Siberia, Americans would remain.

It was stated that the reason for the presence of Americans in Siberia was to aid the Czech-Slovaks along the line of the Siberian railway.

By the Associated Press.
VLADIVOSTOK, Nov. 12 (delayed).—The 68,000 rifles which an American detachment was conveying by train from Vladivostok to Admiral Kolchak's forces at Irkutsk went through intact to that city, despite the demands of Gen. Semenov, the Cossack commander in Central Siberia, that 15,000 of the rifles be handed over to him en route. Semenov held up the train conveying the arms at Chita on October 24 and gave the Americans until 11 o'clock on the morning of October 25 to comply with his demand.

The American train was held up for forty hours, the Lieutenant commanding the train guard not knowing until after the expiration of Semenov's time limit that the Japanese had interfered and obtained permission for the train to proceed. According to members of the Siberian Railway Commission at Chita, after Semenov demanded the rifles the guard of fifty Americans crept under the cars, using the cases of guns as a barricade. Semenov ran an armored train on the tracks opposite them.

The Americans planned to blow up the rails at each end of the armored train as soon as the attack began to prevent the moving of the Semenov train and then to storm and capture it. After the expiration of the ultimatum the Americans demanded and obtained the removal of the armored train from the tracks opposite them.

The representatives at Vladivostok of Admiral Kolchak have informed Maj. Gen. William S. Graves, commander of the American forces in Siberia, that the Omsk Government had issued orders for the delivery to Semenov of 15,000 rifles.

LETTS SAY GERMANS
INVADE THEIR LAND

Army of 30,000, With Armored Cars, Cross Frontier.

COPENHAGEN, Nov. 18.—A telegram from Kovno to the Lithuanian Telegraph Agency gives an unconfirmed report from Tauragien that a German force of 30,000 men, including African troops of Col. Von Lettow-Vorbeck, with 400 armored motor cars and lorries, has crossed the frontier in Lithuania. The report says the army is advancing toward Shavili (80 miles southwest of Riga).

The German troops in North Courland and Tukum have been severed from those in Mitau and southwest Courland, according to a report from the Lett Bureau. The Letts have captured Kemmern, on the Gulf of Riga, and advanced within six miles of Mitau. The Lettish papers report that the Germans have evacuated Mitau and are fleeing panic-stricken to the German frontier.

On the Lithuanian front the Letts have

rejected a proposal for the capitulation of Libau and are taking the offensive. Thus far they have captured the town of Grouin and have defeated the Germans, who are withdrawing toward Prekulin, in the direction of the German frontier, plundering and burning as they retreat.

BERLIN, Nov. 18.—The Freiheit suggests that after the "failure of the Baltic adventure" the reactionary elements will change from their march westward. A rumor is spreading in Berlin that the German Baltic troops have begun to march toward Berlin.

Col. Avaloff-Hermond has submitted to Gen. von Eberhardt, successor of Gen. von der Goltz as commander of German troops in the Baltic provinces, according to the Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, his troops are reported to be in great disorder and confusion.

Jamaican Longshoremen Strike.
KINGSTON, Jamaica, Nov. 18.—The longshoremen have gone on strike. They demand an increase of 100 per cent. in wages. The steamship Nevisian, from Liverpool, has been unable to unload goods consigned to Kingston and may have to proceed to New Orleans to discharge her cargo.

RUMANIA REBUFFED
BY EX-KING CHARLES

Queen Marie Said to Have
Asked Him to Approve Consolidation Plan.

VIENNA, Nov. 18.—A report from Rumania is printed with reservations by Die Morgen to the effect that Queen Marie of Rumania recently visited former Emperor Charles of Austria at his residence in Switzerland and asked him to renounce all claims to the Hungarian throne in order to accomplish consolidation of the two countries under the Rumanian crown. The Queen is said to have offered Charles a large sum of money in return.

Sigmund Kunfi, former Minister of Education, in an article printed in Der Mensch, says the Government made an effort to hold elections in Hungary just before Bela Kun came into power. The Entente, therefore, Herr Kunfi adds, was wholly to blame for the Soviet rule.

By the Associated Press.
BUDAPEST, Nov. 16 (delayed).—The political situation has apparently taken a new turn with the withdrawal of the Hungarian forces and the entry of the Rumanian national army under Admiral Horthy. Premier Friedrich is reported to be stubbornly opposing the formation of a coalition Government acceptable to the Allies and the militarists openly declare they will not listen to proposals for the cessation of western Hungary to Austria. They declare Hungary has no need for the Versailles peace treaty.

Sir George R. Clerk, representative of the Supreme Council, in the course of an interview with the Associated Press to-day, took not an altogether hopeful view of the situation. He said:

"I pointed out to all parties that the only way open to Hungary was to get peace as quickly as possible. The allies can only make peace with a government really representative of the population. It is highly probable impartial elections would bring in a Christian Nationalist majority. The allies, however, cannot anticipate this majority, and must insist upon formation of a government which would safeguard the impartiality of elections. I am afraid Friedrich's utmost concessions are

hardly acceptable, but I hope common sense will prevail and Hungary will not run herself against a wall."

When allusion was made to symptoms of a new revolt, Sir George said: "Nations cannot be led like children. Hungary must learn by her own experience that if she opposes the peace conference she will be sorry."

KEMAL SAYS ALLIES
WILL DIVIDE TURKEY

Nationalist Leader Will Fight
Move, He Says.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times Service.
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CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 18.—Not content with seizing wheat and barley stored in warehouses from the public debt administration in various provincial towns and thus provoking a protest from the above administration to the Turkish Government, Mustafa Kemal, the nationalist leader, is making levers for his irregulars and imposing an exemption tax of fifty Turkish pounds on all who refuse to serve.

He has further issued a proclamation which the allies and Turkish censors

refused to permit the press to publish in which he accuses the entente Powers of wishing to divide Turkey before the Peace Conference and announces his intention of offering armed resistance to any such attempt. While expressing the hope that the Peace Conference may yet adopt a less severe policy toward Turkey than is presently indicated.

Meanwhile the central government and many politicians until recently supporters of the nationalist movement are growing distinctly nervous and beginning to ask themselves what Kemal will do next.

LONDON, Nov. 18.—Answering a question with reference to the attitude of the United States toward the Turkish mandate, Andrew Bonar Law, the Government leader, said in the House of Commons to-day that while it was the sincere hope of the British Government that the United States should cooperate in the task, both Great Britain and her European allies were fully alive to the necessity of preparing for the possibility of a contrary contingency.

Haig to Retire as Commander.
LONDON, Nov. 18.—The Earl of Haig (Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig) intends to retire as Commander of the Home Forces after the abolition of British General Headquarters, according to the Globe.

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